

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 19-25 are now pending in the application. Support for the foregoing amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicant would like to thank Examiners Takele and Bashor for the courtesies extended to his undersigned representative during a telephone interview on July 3, 2008. During that interview, arguments in favor of patentability along the lines set forth below were presented. The examiners opined that the claim language, in particular step a), read on the steps of sequentially entering **all** of the letters of a word to be input. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiners to reconsider their position, especially in view of the clarifying amendment to claim 1 and new claims 19-25. For example, Claim 1 now specifically is limited to the step of “**sequentially typing in only** the first letter and then the last letter of a word to be input”. Likewise, new claims 19 and 23 call for

- a) inputting the first letter of a word to be searched; (and)
- b) immediately after step a), inputting the last letter of the word to be searched with no intermediate letters being input;

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6 and 8-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0012642) in view of Lee (U.S. Pat. No. 6,686,902). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant submits that Yang and Lee, individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest these limitations of the pending claims. By using the first and last letters as searching criteria (instead of the typical first, second, third letters, etc) quicker and more accurate search results can be obtained. For example, in searching words beginning with the letters “ab”, approximately 350 words such as “about”, “above”, “able”, “abruptly”, “ability” are matched. In contrast, the claimed invention can remarkably reduce the number of matched words by searching with criteria beginning with ‘a’, finishing with ‘b’. Thus, it is more effective to search words with ‘b’ as the last character than as the second character. Thus, the claimed invention makes it possible to input words with remarkably fast speed in comparison with the cited art, because in the search, “the last character” is used to reduce the number of matched words.

Further, claim 1 calls for “wherein a cursor moves in front of the last letter so as to enable an additional letter to be input.” In other words, if a function key is pushed down, the cursor moves to the front of the last character in order to make it possible to input additional characters. After inputting the first and the last characters, the cursor moves to the front of the last character and becomes ready to input the next character.

In contrast, Yang and Lee are silent about inputting additional characters after inputting the last character. In Yang and Lee, it is only possible to input characters

according to the order from the front character, and it is not possible to input the middle character after input of the last character.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the pending claims define over the art cited by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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